

Healthy Forests Restoration Act Projects Title IV-Accelerated Information Gathering

Project Title: Hemlock Woolly Adelgid in the Southern Appalachians
Athens, GA (SRS-4505)

Significance: This research looks at the biology, biological control and impacts of hemlock woolly adelgid in the southern range of hemlocks in an effort to lessen the impact of this invasive pest.

Approach: The Southern Forest Insect and Disease Unit SRS-4505 teamed with scientists at the University of Georgia under a cooperative agreement and the Northeastern Research Station's Center for Forest Health Research, to investigate the potential of new biological control agents to control hemlock woolly adelgid.



Outcome(s): Expected outcomes include:

- Release and evaluation of the lady beetles, *Scymnus sinuanodulus* and *Sasajiscymnus tsugae* for control of hemlock woolly adelgid in the Southern Appalachians.
- An understanding of the potential for control and the short term impact of these beetles on the adelgid.

Benefits: Hemlocks are valued for their beauty in urban settings and for their contribution to the beauty of our forests. They are also a vital species along streams providing cooling shade for improved trout habitat among other benefits. This work is part of a large effort by the Forest Service to save hemlocks from this adelgid. Society will benefit by having this native tree retain its place in our forests and urban landscapes.

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